

Rochester Village Board  
8/12/2024

President Suerdieck called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Members Present:** Trustee Carver, Trustee Eandi, Trustee Hendrickson, Trustee Kindred, Trustee Munroe, President Suerdieck, Clerk Gerberding, Attorney Schuering

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING ON July 8, 2024.**

Trustee Kindred made a motion to approve the minutes for July 8, 2024. Trustee Carver seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND BILLS**

Trustee Munroe made a motion to approve the financial statements and bills. Trustee Kindred seconded the motion. With the new software, a copy of the bills has been shared, but we will now start sharing a year-to-date stat sheet.

Roll call vote was taken:

Trustee Carver – present	Trustee Eandi – yes
Trustee Hendrickson – yes	Trustee Kindred – yes
Trustee Munroe – yes	

Motion passed with 4 yes votes, 1 present and 0 no votes.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRESENTATIONS**

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Elaine Honomichl Lewis – what is protocol for posting signs for the Library Referendum for the upcoming election. Supt. Foster said, he would discuss this with a chat this evening yet.

Carolyn Moore – Historical markers placements – 1<sup>st</sup> – we have permission of the landowners and the current farmer of the property, 2<sup>nd</sup> – they have spoken with Village Board members about the location – Fleischli property – along Oak Mill Estates property. It is the earliest settlement in the area – McCoy property. They are hoping to record this event in history moving forward. Looking for Village approval to pay the IL State Historical Society their fees for the marker and registration process. The filing fee is approximately \$500, the sign is \$1500-\$3000 depending on size. Since this will be part of the easement, they understand the Village Board will need to approve the installation.

Trustee Kindred asked if this would be on the North Side of Magnolia. Yes. Would there be a pull off area for viewing? Not at this point, but there is a street right there that could be used for that purpose.

Trustee Hendrickson wholeheartedly supports this. He also agrees with the concern of a pull off area. He asked how long this process typically takes. Moore stated that it is not a terribly long time. They have the money in place. They will have to work with the State Society on the wording of the sign. They are required to have a dedication ceremony when everything is completed.

Atty. Schuering pointed out no motions can be made tonight because it needs to be on the agenda to do that. However, it can be added to the agenda of a future meeting.

Kirk Allen – What does local government look like? It takes everyone in the community to be involved. He first met the President at the Fire board to unearth what the Fire Chief in the Rochester Fire Protection District was doing with Fire District money and his own business. Allen is the Co-founder of Edgar County Watchdogs. He received 7 requests to come to the meeting to live-stream. He will be FOIA-ing documents about business done with the Hardware Store as the owner and Village President. He is willing to meet with Pres. Suerdieck at any point to discuss previous public comments made.

## **REPORTS**

### *Chief of Police – Tim Sommer*

See attached report – highlights below.

- A. Staff training is happening currently.
- B. 28 applications for police force future staff. 6 are already police officers.
- C. Trustee Hendrickson asked if any changes have been made with the employment policies. Chief Sommer explained that he is looking to possibly change some of the written test. The power test is a state standard and cannot be locally altered. The written test has some options for alterations. There are still requirements for drug testing, psychological testing, fingerprinting, etc.
- D. Trustee Kindred asked if Diederich's request to change employment status was a surprise. Chief said it somewhat was. But they have been able to keep everything covered with other officers.

### *Public Works Superintendent – James Foster*

See attached report – highlights below.

- A. Supt. Foster shared a template ordinance from Trees City USA. He has added "Rochester" to places that were left empty for the local name and made other appropriate changes. Trustees are welcome to ask questions and make suggestions. Trustee Hendrickson requested that Board members review the document before the COW meeting to have a discussion around the sample ordinance shared. This will still need to go through the attorney for final review.
- B. Main Street and Water Street is winding down. There are still a few items still to be done. Supt. Foster estimated that the project is about 80% complete. The engineers have been involved and signed off on all of the bills that have been shared up to this point.
- C. EPA Audit – one more item to do. It is a time-consuming item, so Supt. Foster is working on it.
- D. The corner of Oak and E. Main is a tight corner. They are looking to see what can be done on Ameren's part to move the power pole on that corner. Eventually that street will need to be widened.
- E. Oak Hill Road – The mill and overlay project is complete. They also put in drainage that was suggested by engineers.
- F. Supt. Foster has started getting bids for the repaving of the parking lot. He hopes to have numbers by the COW. He is waiting on concrete bids as well for the project. He reached out to 3 companies. He asked that the companies do both blacktop and concrete prices.
- G. CDL – the first student through has taken and passed his license. He has some limitations due to the vehicle he was tested on. There are 2 more going through training currently.
- H. There is more electrical going into the park. There were 3 bids. He suggests taking the lowest bid and that the company has been helpful with other projects in the Village, so he has confidence in their work. Supt. Foster explained that the power at the park is for vendors at events. The current power is underpower. This will help resolve the ability for everyone to have their own power source. It will only be along the driveway. There will be a map in Public Works for the location later if needed. What about power back by the football fields? That is not likely at this point. That is a 1200 ft run, which is not feasible for the Village at this point.
- I. Trustee Hendrickson stated that there will be an additional 3 meters with 1 additional pedestal at each spot. Ameren sends the Village a lot of bills – can they be shut off? Supt. Foster answered yes and that is already in place. The poles get locked so no one can use it without Public Works knowing. The same will be the case with water as well. There will be multiple meetings for these pedestals, but not AT each pedestal. Those will also divide up the amperage between the pedestals.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

### **Ordinances:**

**N/A**

**Resolutions:**

**RES 24-17** – Considering Acceptance of Low Bid for Electrical Work at Community Park with Carmean Electric. *Trustee Munroe made a motion approving Resolution 24-17. Trustee Hendrickson seconded the motion.*

Roll Call vote was taken:

Trustee Carver – yes	Trustee Eandi – yes
Trustee Hendrickson – yes	Trustee Kindred – yes
Trustee Munroe - yes	

Motion passed with 5 yes and 0 no votes.

**RES 24-18** – Considering Payment Request #2 for Mill Street Water Main Replacement Project to MB Construction, LLC. *Trustee Carver made a motion approving Resolution 24-18. Trustee Munroe seconded the motion. Engineer Kevin Kuhn was in favor of this payment.*

Roll Call vote was taken:

Trustee Carver – yes	Trustee Eandi – yes
Trustee Hendrickson – yes	Trustee Kindred – yes
Trustee Munroe - yes	

Motion passed with 5 yes and 0 no votes.

**RES 24-19** – Considering Approval of a Contract for the Police Retention Grant. Chief Sommer explained that this is what was discussed before. They can offer retention and sign on bonuses. They are waiting to hear if modifications are needed for the grant or not. *Trustee Munroe made a motion approving Resolution 24-19. Trustee Kindred seconded the motion.*

Roll Call vote was taken:

Trustee Carver – yes	Trustee Eandi – yes
Trustee Hendrickson – yes	Trustee Kindred – yes
Trustee Munroe - yes	

Motion passed with 5 yes and 0 no votes.

**Motions:**

**Motion** Considering Temporary Street Closure of Waterwheel Drive at Magnolia Street on Saturday, September 14, 2024, from 12:00 pm to 7:00 pm. *Trustee Munroe made a motion approving the street closure. Trustee Hendrickson seconded the motion.*

Roll Call vote was taken:

Trustee Carver – present	Trustee Eandi – yes
Trustee Hendrickson – yes	Trustee Kindred – present
Trustee Munroe - yes	

Motion passed with 3 yes, 2 presents and 0 no votes.

**Motion** Considering Temporary Street Closure of State Street at the Baptist Church, East Main Street, John Street, East Main Street from Route 29 and North Walnut Street to the Rochester High School Rear Parking Lot on Wednesday, October 2, 2024, from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm for the Rochester High School Homecoming Parade. *Trustee Hendrickson made a motion approving the street closures. Trustee Eandi seconded the motion.*

Roll Call vote was taken:

Trustee Carver – yes	Trustee Eandi – yes
Trustee Hendrickson – yes	Trustee Kindred – yes
Trustee Munroe - present	

Motion passed with 4 yes, 1 present and 0 no votes.

**Motion** to appoint Kevin Forestier to Vacant Village Trustee Position. Forestier was present and stated that is has lived in Rochester 26 years and his kids went through school district. He ran his own landscaping company and developed a distribution center. He has since worked for Meijer up to second in charge. He is currently retired. Trustee Kindred asked how he heard about the vacancy? Forestier

explained he was asking around and heard there was a vacancy. So, he did some exploration and feels he has time to help the Village. He reached out to Pres. Suerdieck about what the requirements were. Trustee Hendrickson asked if he is involved in any other community activities. Yes, Special Olympics. He is a coach for them in various sports. Trustee Carver expressed his concern that Forestier has been presented to the board, while others have been brought forward. As a result, Carver does not feel comfortable voting in favor of Forestier. Munroe explained that the election process is currently open for trustee election in the spring election. Trustee *Munroe made a motion to table for 30 days until the September meeting. Trustee Hendrickson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

**Motion** to Approve Employment Status from Full-Time to Part-Time for Officer Diederich. *Trustee Carver made a motion approving the change in employment status. Trustee Munroe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

Trustee Munroe asked who our Scout visitors are. One of the Scout members explained that they are to attend and listen to a local meeting and then go back to their scout leader and discuss what they heard and learned.

**UPCOMING DATES:**

Upcoming Dates to Remember: (some meetings are tentative and could change, but will have the proper 48 hours posting notice)

Tuesday, August 20, 2024	Planning & Zoning Meeting @ 7 pm
Monday, August 26, 2024	Committee of the Whole Meeting @ 7 pm
Monday, September 2, 2024	Office Closed in Observance of Labor Day
Monday, September 9, 2024	Village Board Meeting @ 7 pm
Friday, February 21, 2025	Sparks in the Park Trivia Night

**Motion to Adjourn**

Trustee Carver made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Munroe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela Gerberding  
Village Clerk